

Japan

25X1

S E C R E T

*****S COPY

State Dept. review completed

OP IMMEDIATE

O 280144Z OCT 74
FM TOKYO 25X1

TO THE WHITE HOUSE

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

S E C R E T 280144Z OCT 74

FM AMBASSADOR HODGSON TOKYO 588

TO THE WHITE HOUSE , FOR RICHARD SHYSER, NSC

REGARDING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT, THE BIG GOALS ARE
WORKING ON AT THIS END ARE:1. TO KEEP THE VISIT FROM BECOMING OVER-FORMAL. (THE ROLE OF
THE IMPERIAL FAMILY AND JAPANESE EMPHASIS ON PROTOCOL WOULD TEND TO
TILT IT THAT WAY.)2. TO DEVISE WAYS TO DEFUSE THE NUCLEAR WEAPON ISSUE... ALMOST
THE ONLY CONTENTIOUS ISSUE IN CURRENT U.S./JAPAN RELATIONS.
(SENATOR SCOTT WHO HAS BEEN HERE PLANS TO DISCUSS THIS WITH THE
PRESIDENT UPON SCOTT'S RETURN TO THE U.S.)3. TO FOCUS THE VISIT ON AN AFFIRMATION OF LONG-TERM COMMON
GOALS PLUS PROVIDING REASSURANCES ON POLICY CONTINUITY AND
CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS.

MORI C02855426

4. TO AVOID BLUNDERS IN THE AREAS OF SECURITY, NATIONAL SENSIT-
IVITY, TRADITION AND LOCAL POLITICAL RELATIONSHIPS.WITH RESPECT TO THE LATTER SUBJECT, THE CURRENT POLITICAL
POSITION OF THE PRIME MINISTER DESERVES SPECIAL ATTENTION. BY
OBJECTIVE MEASURES IT IS SHAKY BOTH WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND
WITHIN HIS OWN LDP PARTY. AN UNPOPULAR BLUSTERING PERSONAL STYLE
ALIENATES MANY. HE INHERITS THE ANIMUS THAT FLOWS FROM A
DETERIORATING AND DRIFTING NATIONAL ECONOMY MARKED BY PERSISTENT
INFLATION (A SUBJECT HE SEEMS TO HAVE TREATED WITH CONSPICUOUS
INATTENTION); THIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE U.S. NUCLEAR WEAPON
ISSUE IS CONSIDERED UNSATISFACTORY; AND NOW A FUROR HAS ARISEN OVER
"WATERGATE-LIKE" EXPOSURES OF HIS PRIVATE LIFE, INCOME AND POLITICAL
PRACTICES. THE RESULT IS THAT OPINION POLLS GIVE HIM ONLY 16 PCT.
PUBLIC SUPPORT; SEVERAL TOP BUSINESS AND OTHER LEADERS PUBLICLY,
AND MANY MORE PRIVATELY, PROFESS GREAT DISPLEASURE WITH HIS GOVERN-
MENT, SEVERAL LDP AND POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE EITHER OPENLY BROKEN
WITH HIM OR ARE EDGING AWAY FROM HIM.HE IS SUSTAINED BY TWO THINGS.... BEING A CONFIDENT AGGRESSIVE
MAN HE HAS AS YET AVOIDED BEING DRIVEN INTO A DEFENSIVE PUBLIC POSTURE.
MORE IMPORTANTLY HIS OPPOSITION LACKS BOTH COHESION AND FOCUS.
OPPOSITION PARTIES ARE WEAK AND SPLIT. WITHIN THE LDP NO "NATURAL"

*****WHSR COMMENT*****

SCOWCROFT, LL, SHYSER

PSN:041111 RECALLED
PAGE 01

TOR:301/02:57Z DTG:280144Z OCT 74

S E C R E T

*****S COPY

S E C R E T

*****S COPY

REPLACEMENT IS ON THE HORIZON. ISSUES ARE EITHER DEFUSE OR ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVES ARE UNCLEAR. AND IT IS TOO EARLY TO TELL WHETHER CURRENT DISCLOSURES WILL PERSUADE THE JAPANESE TO DEPART FROM THEIR TRADITIONAL INDIFFERENCE TO QUESTIONABLE PRIVATE CONDUCT AND POLITICAL PRACTICES.

I HAVE MUCH SYMPATHY WITH TANAKA'S SITUATION. MANY OF HIS TROUBLES ARE NOT OF HIS OWN MAKING. HE IS A FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES AND HE IS A MAN OF HIS WORD. YET IF THE VISIT IS TO ACHIEVE ITS BASIC OBJECTIVE OF ENHANCING LONG TERM FAVORABLE U.S./JAPAN REALTIONS, IT SHOULD NOT BE EXCESSIVELY "TANAKA-CENTERED". IT SHOULD LARGELY AVOID PERSONAL DIPLOMACY AND INSTEAD REFLECT RELATIONS CONSIDERATIONS. THE FOREGOING IS A WHOLLY PERSONAL ASSESSMENT. I HOPE IT IS HELPFUL.

PSN:041111

RECALLED
PAGE 02

DE 02

TDR:301/02:57Z

DTG:280144Z OCT 74

S E C R E T

*****S COPY